

Dean for Student Life Search Committee Will Start Interviews in May

By Michael McGraw-Herdeg
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

The search for Dean for Student Life Larry G. Benedict's replacement is well underway, and a preliminary list of the top eight candidates will be chosen Monday afternoon.

Following the current schedule, a new dean could be named as early as June or as late as early July. Benedict will leave at the end of the academic year, at the end of August, said Undergraduate Association President Martin F. Holmes '08, a member of the committee that is selecting the new dean.

A community picnic honoring Benedict will be held Monday, May 5, in Killian Court starting at noon. As Dean for Student Life, Benedict has worked on campus dining issues, overseen dormitory renovations, expanded the housemaster program to graduate residences, and worked on other student services projects. His position, which allows him to advocate on students' behalf, also makes him responsible for student life and well-being in a tangible way, evident in his work on the 2001 Mental Health Task Force.

Benedict was unavailable for an interview.

About six dozen candidates to replace Benedict have been vetted by an external search firm, and of those, about three dozen have complete applications, Holmes said. On Monday afternoon, immediately after the picnic, the search committee

will review packets of information about each potential replacement, and they will choose a list of eight candidates to interview further, Holmes said.

First-round interviews with the committee will be held in the subsequent week, Holmes said. The committee will choose three or four candidates to invite to a second round of interviews with the committee, administrators, and students, to be held in the second half of May.

If the committee cannot make a final recommendation after these interviews, a final round of interviews with the top candidates will be held in early June.

In the search for a new admissions dean, MIT made an offer two to three weeks after that search committee had issued its recommendations, Holmes said. If this pattern holds, a new dean for student life could be chosen as early as June or as late as July.

Benedict was named Dean for Student Life on June 16, 2000, and the appointment was effective two months later, on Aug. 21. The new dean will not have quite so long for a transition, since Benedict is slated to leave at the end of August.

Holmes said that the committee has considered appointing an interim dean for student life in case the new dean cannot begin serving in time to replace Benedict. In 2000,

Student Life, Page 14

MIT Will Release Student Birth Dates, Enhance Opt-Out System

By Michael McGraw-Herdeg
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

MIT will release students' dates of birth for statistical purposes, but it will not publish those dates. The release will take place in the fall, following a proposal discussed by Dean for Undergraduate Education Daniel E. Hastings PhD '80 at a meeting with undergraduates last night.

The change would let MIT participate in an information-sharing system used by the 65-university American Association of Universities, Hastings said. It would also let the Institute include student birth dates with census information sent each year to the Cambridge Election Commission; this year, the information was only sent to the city with students' written permission. That census information is used to confirm that people are eligible to vote in Cambridge, and the information may affect whether students are called for jury duty in Massachusetts.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act prevents MIT from disclosing some personal information about its students without their consent. Some basic facts may be revealed without getting permission first; these facts are called "directory information" and frequently include things like names and phone numbers. Each school decides on its own what constitutes directory information. Under the law, a student may ask for their information not to be released, and universities must abide by this opt-out request.



PERRY HUNG—THE TECH

Dean for Undergraduate Education Daniel E. Hastings PhD '80 speaks to the Undergraduate Association last night.

Four members of the AAU, including MIT, do not presently consider birth dates "directory information." As a result, they cannot

participate in the association's data-sharing system, which provides

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3Com Corporation's New CEO Signals Change in Focus to the Chinese Market

By Hiawatha Bray
THE BOSTON GLOBE

Telecommunications equipment maker 3Com Corp. is based in Marlborough, Mass.

But the announcement that its new chief executive will be based in Hong Kong leaves no doubt the company's future is in China.

Robert Mao SM '72, previously 3Com's executive vice president of corporate development, replaces outgoing chief executive and president Edgar Masri.

Former 3Com executive Ronald Sege, who left the company a decade ago, will serve as president and chief operating officer, a job that will remain in the United States.

"We have the opportunity to bring in two very experienced and talented individuals who the board believes are well equipped to lead 3Com forward," said 3Com spokesman Kevin Flanagan, "particularly when it comes to maximizing the success of our already successful China operation."

Mao, former president of China operations for Nortel Networks, a Canadian telecom vendor, is a US citizen and a graduate of the Massa-

chusetts Institute of Technology and Cornell University.

"Bob's bicultural background, extensive business experience in Asia, and fluency in Mandarin and English offer a rare set of skills that can bridge Chinese and western organizations," said 3Com's board chairman, Eric Benhamou.

Once one of the world's leading networking hardware firms, 3Com has faded in recent years, falling far behind rivals like Cisco Systems Inc. But the company has found salvation in China's booming market for telecom gear. The company's H3C business unit, based in Hong Kong, was a joint venture between 3Com and China's Huawei Technologies, until 3Com bought the entire operation in 2006.

H3C, which makes switches, routers, and other communications equipment, generated two-thirds of 3Com's revenue for its fiscal third quarter, which ended Feb. 29.

"H3C is their growth path, not traditional 3Com stuff in the US," said Zeus Kerravala, network equipment analyst at Yankee Group in Boston. "Their brand has really been tarnished here."

Besides, while the US economy is on the brink of recession, demand for telecom gear in China remains strong. Kerravala said the H3C business should shield 3Com from the effects of the American slowdown.

Jeff Evenson, senior analyst for US data networking at the investment firm Sanford C. Bernstein LLC in New York, said that putting Mao in China could reinforce efforts to develop inexpensive H3C products that could then be exported worldwide. The move could also help 3Com hang on to vital Chinese engineering talent, he said. 3Com has already offered lavish cash payments to keep workers who were brought into the company after the H3C acquisition.

Indeed, Evenson thinks 3Com would be better off selling its TippingPoint business, which makes network security gear, and another US-based operation that makes Internet-protocol telephone products, to focus on H3C. "I would just shift the company to be a Chinese company," he said.

Mao's appointment comes weeks

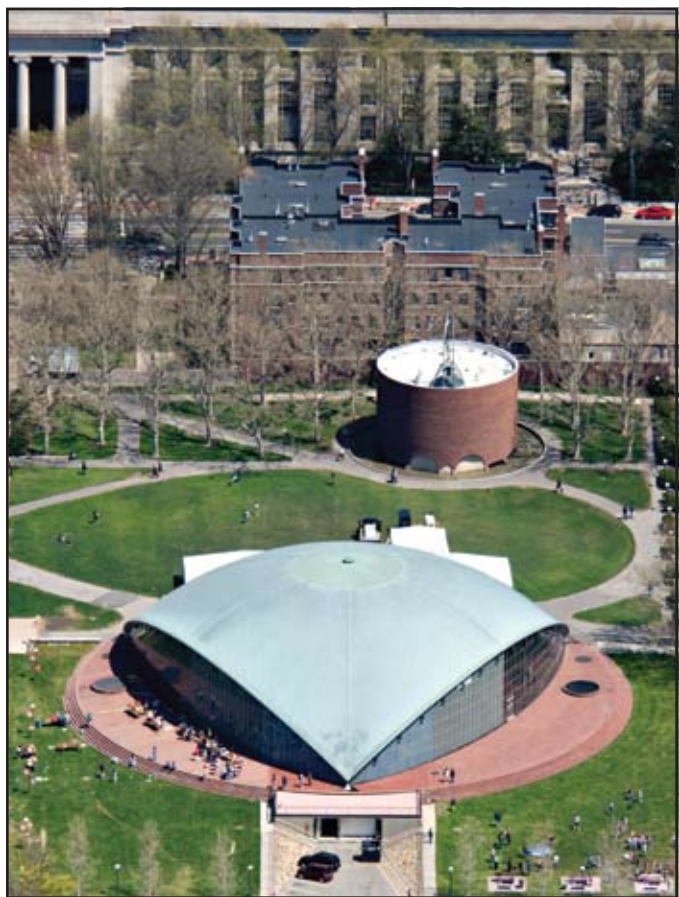
3Com, Page 13

In Short

¶ Pi Beta Phi has accepted an invitation from MIT to colonize and will be the Institute's sixth sorority. Founded in 1867, the sorority has 131 chapters at colleges across the country, according to its national

organization's Web site. There are currently no other Pi Phi chapters in Massachusetts colleges.

Send news information and tips to news@the-tech.mit.edu.



ERIC SCHMIEDL—THE TECH

Andreas Mershin of the MIT Flying Club took Tech photographers Ricardo Ramirez '09 and Eric D. Schmiedl '09 up for an aerial photo shoot of the MIT campus on April 26, 2008. For more photos, see page 8.

ARTS

Were you the sweaty, annoying girl at the Third Eye Blind concert? If so, Sarah wants to talk to you ...

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WORLD & NATION

Reading Initiative Found Ineffective

By Sam Dillon

THE NEW YORK TIMES

President Bush’s \$1 billion-a-year initiative to teach reading to low-income children has not improved their reading comprehension, according to a Department of Education report released on Thursday.

The program, known as Reading First, drew on some of Bush’s educational experiences as Texas governor, and at his insistence Congress included it in the federal No Child Left Behind legislation that passed with bipartisan support in 2001. It has been a subject of dispute almost ever since, however, with the Bush administration and some state officials characterizing the program as beneficial for students, and congressional Democrats and federal investigators alleging conflict of interest among its top advisers.

“Reading First did not improve students’ reading comprehension,” concluded the report, which was mandated by Congress and carried out by the Department of Education’s research arm, the Institute of Education Sciences. “The program did not increase the percentages of students in grades one, two or three whose reading comprehension scores were at or above grade level.”

Stocks Jump as Many Investors Think Worst May Be Over

By Vikas Bajaj

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Main Street may be struggling, but Wall Street is on a bit of a roll. Despite a drumbeat of bad economic news, the stock market is up — almost 11 percent in the last few weeks. Junk bonds, those risky corporate IOUs, are rallying. The value of financial shares, bank loans, tricky credit derivatives — up, up, up. Many on Wall Street, the epicenter of the credit mess, seem to think that the worst is over. For the first time in months, analysts and executives sound upbeat again. Many of them see a broad, sustained recovery in both the economy and the financial markets coming in second half of this year, a prediction some market strategists call hopeful at best.

For now, policymakers are echoing the mood on Wall Street. Treasury Secretary Henry M. Paulson Jr. said in an interview with Bloomberg Television on Thursday that “we are closer to the end of this problem than we are to the beginning.” A report from the Bank of England, meantime, concluded that mortgage securities, which have been at the heart of the financial troubles, probably have fallen too far. The central bank said prices of such securities should “improve gradually in the coming months.”

Fox News Becoming Friendlier to Democratic Party

By Brian Stelter

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Standing in front of a television camera last week, the Hillary Rodham Clinton campaign chairman Terry McAuliffe uttered four words that the Fox News Channel would not soon forget.

“Fair and balanced Fox!” he exclaimed, noting that the network was the first to project Clinton’s victory in the Pennsylvania primary.

Fox executives could not have asked for a more rousing endorsement. The next day it showed up in commercials.

All of a sudden, the once-frosty relationship between Fox News and the Democratic candidates seems to have grown warmer. Clinton and Barack Obama, who steadfastly refused to attend Fox-sponsored debates last year, are now giving plenty of interviews as they court Fox’s viewers, who are largely white, working-class, conservative — and undecided.

“It’s probably true that we appeal to white working class voters,” said Brit Hume, the network’s Washington managing editor and the host of “Special Report.” “The candidates are going where the voters are.”

U.S. Airstrike Kills Militia Chief Linked to Al-Qaida

By Eric Schmitt and Jeffrey Gettleman

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

A U.S. missile strike in Somalia apparently killed one of al-Qaida’s top operatives in East Africa on Thursday, but while administration officials claimed success they also acknowledged facing an uphill battle to score lasting blows in their final months against the terrorist group around the world.

Political resistance from the new government in Pakistan, restrictions on pursuing militants across Afghanistan’s borders and the possibility of popular resentment in Somalia driving new recruits to militant Islam are the kinds of hurdles administration officials said could be handed off to the next president.

U.S. officials portrayed the attack that killed the operative, Aden Hashi Ayro, as a product of intensified intelligence gathering in which they tracked him for weeks and made use of the free rein granted to the Pentagon in carrying out attacks in Somalia’s largely ungoverned spaces.

Thursday’s attack was arguably the most successful U.S. strike

against Islamic militants outside of Iraq, Afghanistan or Pakistan since a deadly strike in Yemen in 2002, reflecting broader U.S. concerns about terrorist havens in Africa.

Ayro was one of the most feared and notorious figures in Somalia, a short, wispy man believed to be in his 30s who had gone from lowly car washer to a top terrorist suspect blamed for a string of atrocities, including killing a BBC journalist, desecrating an Italian graveyard and planning suicide attacks across Somalia. He was a military commander for the Shabab, an Islamist militia, which the U.S. government recently classified as a terrorist group, saying it was linked to al-Qaida.

The United States has failed to contain al-Qaida in places like Pakistan and Afghanistan, and struggles even in Somalia, where the government gave authorization 16 months ago for U.S. strikes on militants there.

But U.S. attacks on terrorism suspects in the region have proved unreliable before, and human rights organizations have upbraided the United States for launching airstrikes in Somalia in the past year

that ended up wounding or killing civilians.

Still, some administration officials said they wanted to make a mark on the issue in the waning months of the Bush presidency, pointing to al-Qaida’s resurgence in the tribal areas of Pakistan; the rising number of cross-border attacks from Pakistan and Afghanistan; and evidence that al-Qaida and its offshoots are seeking to establish surer footholds in the Horn of Africa and other parts of the continent.

In January, U.S. officials reached an understanding with President Pervez Musharraf of Pakistan to intensify strikes by pilotless aircraft against suspected terrorists. A few weeks later Abu Laith al-Libi, a senior Qaida leader, was killed in a missile attack in the tribal areas.

Within Somalia, there was debate over whether Ayro’s death would be a turning point toward peace or fuel for more resistance. Government officials have been trying to make a truce with more moderate elements of Somalia’s Islamist movement and argued that with a violent leader like Ayro gone, moderates would be more receptive.

Congress Clears Bill to Prevent Genetic Screenings by Insurers

By Amy Harmon

THE NEW YORK TIMES

A bill that would prohibit discrimination by health insurers and employers based on the information that people carry in their genes won final approval in Congress on Thursday by an overwhelming vote.

The legislation, which President Bush has indicated he will sign, speaks both to the mounting hope placed in genetic research to greatly improve health care and the fear of a dystopia in which people’s genetic information could be used against them. On the House floor on Thursday, Democrats and Republicans alike cited anecdotes and polls illustrating that people feel they should not be penalized for what is in their genes.

“People know we all have bad genes, and we are all potential victims of genetic discrimination,” said

Rep. M. Louise Slaughter, D-N.Y., who was a key sponsor of the bill, which passed the House on Thursday by a 414-1 vote, and the Senate by 95-5 a week earlier.

Still, some experts said that people should still be cautious with their genetic information. And the bill leaves open the ability for insurance companies to ask customers to take genetic tests that they believe could lead to preventive therapies.

Doctors say a fear of discrimination on the part of patients has prevented thousands at risk of genetic disease from taking advantage of tests that might help them make better health care choices. Some patients worry that they may be denied jobs or face higher insurance premiums if a genetic predisposition to disease shows up in their medical records.

Many who do learn that they are at higher risk for a disease choose not to ask their insurance companies to cover the costs of the genetic test, to keep the information secret. Some try to persuade medical professionals not to enter the test results in their health records; others keep the information even from their own doctors.

If the bill is signed into law, many more people are expected to take advantage of genetic testing and to participate in genetic research.

The measure did not always have such overwhelming support. Similar legislation had foundered for over a decade in the face of opposition from employers and insurers and skepticism from lawmakers over its necessity: virtually no cases of genetic discrimination have ever been documented.

WEATHER

Temperature Extremes

By Garrett P. Marino

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

We are still in that time of the year when the diurnal, or daily, temperature range can be rather large. Clear skies and light winds are ideal conditions to make this happen, with abundant sunlight to warm the surface during the day, and good radiational cooling at night lowering temperatures. For instance, Bedford (10 miles to the northwest of Boston) reported a temperature of 26 degrees yesterday morning, while Martha’s Vineyard was even colder — an amazing 22 degrees Fahrenheit! Meanwhile in Boston, the ocean’s influence kept temperatures near 40. Within two hours of sunrise, all three locations were nearly the same temperature — about 50°F. So within the next few weeks, if the sun is setting upon clear skies and light winds, there’s a good chance it’ll be cold before sunrise.

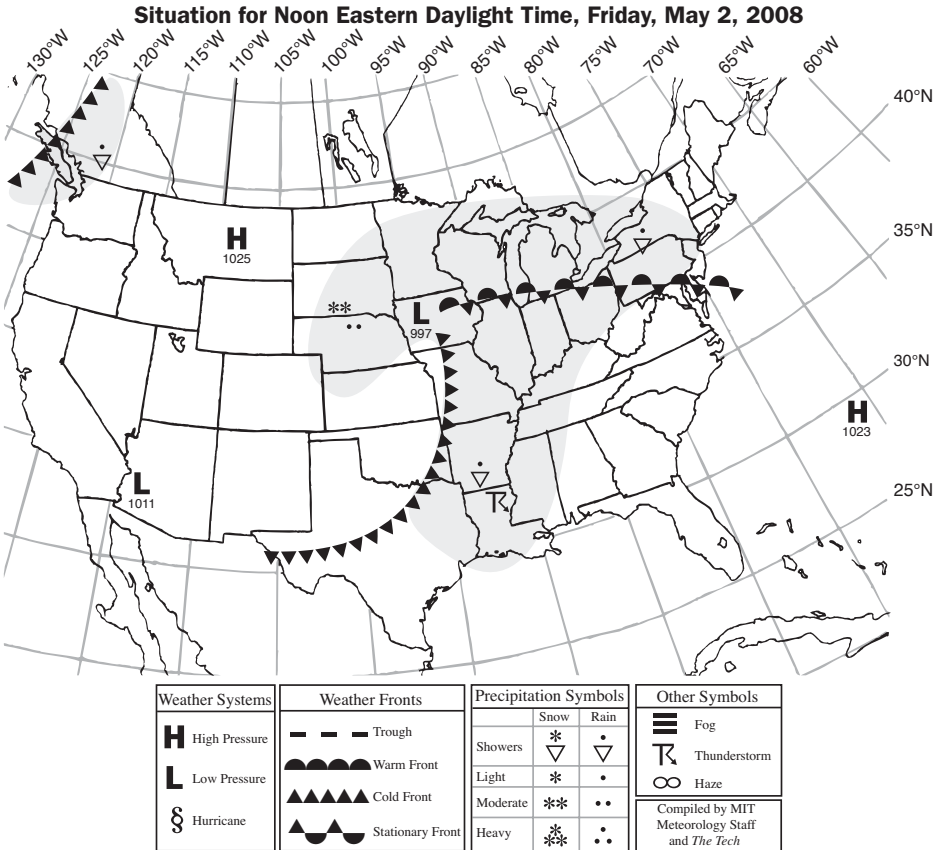
In the Boston area today, expect mostly cloudy skies and cool temps as the winds will blow from the cold ocean. A warm front will try to push into the area today, but any associated showers should remain to our south. Cool high pressure will dominate the first half of the weekend, while the chance of showers increases again by Monday with the passage of a slow-moving cold front. Have a great weekend!

Today: Mostly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. Highs in the mid 50s°F (13°C).

Tonight: Cloudy. Lows in the lower to mid 40s°F (6°C).

Tomorrow: Partly sunny. Highs in the upper 50s°F (15°C). Lows in the mid 40s°F (7°C).

Sunday and Monday: Mostly cloudy with a chance of showers, mainly for Monday. Highs near 60°F (16°C). Lows in the mid 40s°F (7°C).



Double Bombings in Iraqi Town Kill At Least 35, Wound 62

By Erica Goode and Stephen Farrell

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD

Two thunderous blasts set off by suicide bombers ripped through a crowded shopping street in the town of Balad Ruz in Diyala province on Thursday, killing at least 35 people and wounding at least 62 others, many of them seriously.

The first bomb was aimed at a wedding caravan that was driving through the neighborhood, said a security official in Balad Ruz, known for its restaurants and stores. The second bomb went off after the police and medical teams arrived.

One bomber was a woman wearing an explosives-filled vest, the security official said. The other was a man. The bombings took place in the early evening, when many people were shopping for food and other supplies before the start of the weekend. The attack came only hours after a car bomb in eastern Baghdad killed an American soldier and nine Iraqi civilians.

Clashes continued Thursday

in the Sadr City neighborhood in Baghdad. American forces conducted airstrikes there on areas that military officials say are being used to fire rockets at the fortified Green Zone by militias that they say are being trained and supplied by Iran.

A delegation of Iraq's senior Shiite leaders met Thursday in Tehran with the heads of Iranian security forces to express concerns about Iran's role in arming and financing militia fighters. Haider al-Ibadi, a member of parliament from the prime minister's Dawa Party, said the delegation was carrying with it hard evidence — "and it is a lot" — on Iran's involvement "in our inner affairs."

The delegation showed the Iranian security officials the evidence, al-Ibadi said, and the group was promised a meeting with Iran's supreme religious leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, on Friday.

"We want to deliver to him the evidence," al-Ibadi said.

American and Iraqi officials have said that the delegation was sent by Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki. But Yaseen Majid, an adviser to him,

said that the group was sent by parliament and that "it's not a governmental delegation at all."

The bombings in Balad Ruz, northeast of Baghdad, were the latest in a string of major attacks recently in Diyala province, a region that American officials have contended is considerably safer as a result of the joining of local forces, known as Awakening Councils, with American and Iraqi forces to fight insurgents.

Those attacks included one on April 16 in which a suicide car bombing in Baqouba killed at least 40 people, and another one on April 18 at the northeastern edge of the province that killed at least 30 people at a funeral.

Maj. Gen. Abdul Karim al-Rubaie, Diyala's chief of security, said the bombers appeared to be "waiting for people to gather in order to cause more victims."

Al-Rubaie said that his forces were trying their best to stop attacks but that Balad Ruz had a big market district and "we can't put in every single street or shop a person who searches the people."

Giant Airport Is Just One of Beijing's Olympic-Size Projects

By David Barboza

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BEIJING

Beijing airport's new Terminal 3 — twice the size of the Pentagon — is the largest building in the world.

Adorned with the colors of imperial China and a roof that evokes the scales of a dragon, the massive glass- and steel-sheathed structure, designed by the renowned British architect Norman Foster, cost \$3.8 billion and can handle more than 50 million passengers a year. The developers call it the "most advanced airport building in the world," and say it was completed in less than four years, a timetable some believed impossible.

It opened in late February with little fanfare, but also without the kind of glitches that plagued the new \$8.7-billion terminal at Heathrow in London, a project that took six years to complete.

This is the image China would like to project as it hosts the Olympic Games this summer — a confident rising power constructing dazzling monuments exemplifying its rapid progress and its audacious ambition.

While much of the world has focused on protests trailing the Olympic torch, China's poor human rights record, its pollution, product safety and child labor scandals, workers here have been putting the finishing touches on one of the biggest building programs the world has ever seen.

Indiana Voters Say Pastor's Remarks Haven't Swayed Them

By Monica Davey

THE NEW YORK TIMES

INDIANAPOLIS

In the cafes, gift stores and the gourmet dog biscuit shop in this city's neighborhood of Broad Ripple Village, the Rev. Jeremiah A. Wright Jr.'s name draws all sorts of responses — sighs, rolling eyes, laughter, grim silence.

But many people, like Clyde H. Crockett, a retired law professor who was sipping a drink in a coffee shop here on Thursday morning, said his thoughts about Wright will have no bearing on his decision — still unmade — about whom to vote for in Indiana's Democratic primary Tuesday.

"Why should it?" he said. "No one should be tainted because of Rev. Wright."

The shoppers in Broad Ripple and in the neighborhoods nearby reflect a demographic group — mostly white, highly educated, professional, artsy, relatively well-off, politically independent — that has leaned toward Sen. Barack Obama in other states and one that Sen. Hillary Clinton will hope to gain an edge with here, in a state that polls show as nearly split in two.

But in interviews here on Thursday, voters said Wright's highly publicized comments and the responses and echoes that have followed have had little bearing on them.

Clinton Fights On, Uphill, In the Contest For Superdelegates

By Adam Nagourney and Carl Hulse

THE NEW YORK TIMES

INDIANAPOLIS

Have Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton's chances of winning the Democratic presidential nomination improved as Sen. Barack Obama has struggled through his toughest month of this campaign? After weeks in which her candidacy was seen by many party leaders as a long shot at best, Clinton's advisers argued strenuously Thursday that the answer is most assuredly yes, that the outlook is turning in her favor in a way that gives her a real chance.

Still, despite a series of trials that put Obama on the defensive and illustrated the burdens he might carry in a fall campaign, the Obama campaign is rolling along, leaving Clinton with dwindling options as time begins to run out.

Obama continues to pick up the support of superdelegates — elected Democrats and party leaders — at a quicker pace than Clinton. On Thursday, he got a boost from a high-profile defection: Joe Andrew, a former Democratic National Party chairman who had been installed in the position by former President Bill Clinton, said he had changed his mind and would back Obama. Even after Clinton's victory in Pennsylvania, Obama has held on to a solid lead in pledged delegates, those selected by the voting in primaries and caucuses.

And while Clinton has cut into Obama's popular vote lead, it would be difficult for her to overtake him without counting the disputed results in Florida and perhaps Michigan.

Raul Castro Gently Nudges Cuba Toward Reforms

By Marc Lacey

THE NEW YORK TIMES

HAVANA

Can a rice maker possibly be revolutionary?

There they were, piled up one atop another: Chinese-made rice makers selling for \$70 each. Beside them, sleek DVD players. Across the well-stocked electronics store were computers and televisions and other household appliances that President Raul Castro recently decreed ought to be made available to everyday Cubans, or at least those who could afford them.

Since finally succeeding his ailing 81-year-old brother Fidel in February, Castro, 76, who appeared before hundreds of thousands of Cubans at a May Day rally on Thursday in the capital, has been busy with a flurry of changes. In the last eight weeks, he has also opened access to cellphones, lifted the ban on Cubans using tourist hotels, and granted farmers the right to mangle unused land for profit.

More is on the horizon, government officials say, like easing restrictions to go abroad and the possibility of allowing Cubans to buy and sell their own cars, and perhaps even their homes.

Each of these changes may be microscopic in contrast to the out-sized problems facing Cuba. But taken together, they are shaking up this stoic, time-warped place.

Just how far Castro will be willing to tinker with the country his brother left him and what, if anything, he is using as his playbook nobody knows for sure. Mikhail Gorbachev's attempts to reinvigorate the ailing Soviet system led to its collapse and Cuba's abandonment.

Investors Disappointed by Exxon's Near-Record Quarterly Profits

By Jad Mouawad

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Exxon Mobil reported the second-best quarterly profit in its history on Thursday — and investors could barely hide their disappointment.

Exxon, the world's largest publicly traded oil company, said its net income rose 17 percent in the first quarter, buoyed by high oil prices. But that was less than Wall Street expected, and Exxon's shares fell 3.6 percent, to close at \$89.70.

Moreover, the company's report displayed fresh difficulties in its core business, with oil production dropping sharply compared with the quarter a year earlier.

Crude oil prices have flirted with records, lifting corporate profits throughout the industry to new heights. But they are also masking an increasingly difficult business environment, marked by rising costs, tightening access to oil fields and declining profit for refineries.

For the big oil companies, extraordinary profits have turned into a somewhat incongruous embarrassment of riches. Rising gasoline and diesel fuel prices have created resentment among

drivers and truckers against the oil companies that could especially resonate in an election year.

The high crude oil prices are translating into record retail gasoline costs in the United States. Regular gasoline was selling Thursday for an average of \$3.62 a gallon, according to AAA, the automobile club, up from less than \$3 a year ago. Diesel fuel averaged \$4.25 a gallon.

Few energy specialists expect oil prices to drop much this year. Oil for June delivery on the New York Mercantile Exchange fell 94 cents on Thursday, to \$112.52 a barrel.

While energy companies have little control over the price of oil, which is set on commodities markets, they have benefited immensely from the rally. In the last week, BP, Royal Dutch Shell and ConocoPhillips all reported big jumps in their profits.

Exxon is admired in the industry for its spending discipline and skill at managing complex projects. But this quarter, its profits fell short of Wall Street forecasts. Exxon's net income was \$10.9 billion, or \$2.03 a share, up from \$9.3 billion, or \$1.62 a share a year earlier. Analysts surveyed by

Thomson Financial had forecast \$2.13 a share.

That level of profitability still makes the quarter Exxon's second most lucrative, after the record \$11.7 billion it earned in the fourth quarter of 2007. Last year, the company reported a profit of \$40.6 billion, the biggest annual profit by an American company.

Still, Brian M. Youngberg, an oil analyst at Edward Jones, noted: "Investing comes down to expectations and the expectations were pretty high, especially after BP and Shell reported pretty good outlooks. And Exxon didn't quite deliver."

In particular, investors focused on a sharp production drop caused by a government takeover of Exxon's assets in Venezuela, the decline of fields in the United States and lower quantities in West Africa.

Exxon's oil output dropped almost 10 percent in the first quarter, to 2.47 million barrels a day, compared with the quarter last year, as production fell in every region except Russia and the Caspian. Even disregarding the effect of the events in Venezuela, Exxon's production fell 6 percent.

Bush Proposes U.S. Spend More On Food Aid Programs for Poor Nations

By Steven Lee Myers

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

President Bush on Thursday proposed spending an additional \$770 million in emergency food assistance for poor countries, responding to rising food prices that have resulted in social unrest in several nations.

The president's proposal came only days after Democrats in Congress had called for increases, and it received a largely positive response, though some Democrats criticized the fact that the additional aid would not be available until the next fiscal year, which begins in October.

Bush's proposal, announced in a previously unscheduled appearance in the East Room of the White House, underscored how quickly the global food crisis has risen to the top of Washington's agenda.

The administration in April ordered the Department of Agriculture to release \$200 million in commodities paid for by a special trust fund, while the U.S. Agency for International Development promised \$40 million more in emergency aid to

countries hardest hit by soaring prices and shortages.

"In some of the world's poorest nations, rising prices can mean the difference between getting a daily meal and going without food," Bush said.

The \$770 million would be included in next year's budget, increasing total U.S. food assistance to \$2.6 billion, the deputy budget director, Stephen S. McMillin, said in a telephone conference. In the current year, the administration has proposed spending \$2.3 billion, he said.

Sen. Richard J. Durbin of Illinois, the chamber's second-ranking Democrat, welcomed the president's proposal "as a sign of the magnitude of this problem."

But another Democrat, Sen. Robert P. Casey Jr. of Pennsylvania, said in a telephone interview that the administration needed to act with "a real sense of urgency" and endorse a swifter increase.

Casey and Durbin this week asked the administration for an immediate \$200 million increase in foreign food aid, on top of a \$350

million emergency package the administration has already proposed in a supplemental spending measure.

In his remarks, Bush also called on other countries to ease trade barriers restricting agricultural imports or exports and to lift bans on genetically modified foods. He urged Congress to give the government greater flexibility in dispersing assistance. He said the administration wants to use a quarter of all the U.S. aid to buy food from foreign countries rather than here in the United States.

"In order to break the cycle of famine that we're having to deal with too often in a modern era, it's important to help build up local agriculture," he said. But he did not insist on that approach as a condition for increasing aid.

The proposal received strong support on Thursday from the charity Oxfam America. "While America provides half of the world's food aid, this generosity is undermined by legal restrictions and bureaucracy, as food aid must be purchased in the U.S. and transported on U.S.-flagged ships," Oxfam said in a statement.

OPINION



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The Tech (ISSN 0148-9607) is published on Tuesdays and Fridays during the academic year (except during MIT vacations), Wednesdays during January, and monthly during the summer by The Tech, Room W20-483, 84 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Mass. 02139. Subscriptions are \$45.00 per year (third class) and \$105.00 (first class). **POSTMASTER:** Please send all address changes to our mailing address: The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029. **TELEPHONE:** Editorial: (617) 253-1541. Business: (617) 258-8324. Facsimile: (617) 258-8226. *Advertising, subscription, and typesetting rates available.* Entire contents © 2008 The Tech. Printed on recycled paper by Charles River Publishing.

Corrections

Because of a typographical error, the April 15 editorial “COD Should Face Tough Questions” misstated the middle initial of the Committee on Discipline’s former chair. He is George E. Apostolakis, not George J. Apostolakis.

Letters To The Editor

China’s Overreaction Hurts Their Aims

I have never really been too energized about the cause of Tibet (worthy, no doubt, but just not one of my “pet” causes) and was somewhat ambivalent on the whole issue of the Olympics in China. On one hand, it would be nice to have the Olympics hosted in a place that was more representative of the values the Games are so frequently said to stand for, on the other hand it would be a bit hypocritical of me not to allow my televised sports entertainment to come from a place that already produces pretty much everything else I consume. Even the fact that China is taking this chance as an opportunity to show off its new-found wealth didn’t bother me — hosting and competing in Olympic Games has always been about nationalism, determining who has the best genes, the best doctors, the best coaches, and sometimes even the best athletes. However, the seemingly organized uproar that has been created by an apparently significant portion of the Chinese population at MIT and elsewhere to the vocal criticisms of a few semi-organized activists has managed to change my mind.

China has been somewhat criticized in the media on their Human Rights record recently. Regardless of any considerations regarding the appropriateness of the content or its timing (is any of the information that is coming out really new?), what is more significant is the reaction of Chinese people. Instead of just brushing aside the criticism, as mostly everyone seemed to be doing, or taking it at face value, recognizing the reality and merely stating that they were taking steps to improve it, it seems that the criticism was somehow taken personally, as an offense to their integrity. It almost appears that Chinese people took on the role of what in my country is called the “offended virgin” — like a debutante about to go on a coming-of-age Ball to present her to society that suddenly throws a tantrum when someone notices she is 8-months pregnant underneath the puffy green dress. The completely overblown reactions we have been seeing, from Facebook groups to seemingly endless Letters to the Editor in *The Tech*, from Beijing Olympics stickers on namecards to the attacks to the Duke student *The Tech* reported a few editions ago, are a proof of that. At least most Americans (or the ones I know, anyway) were

able to distinguish international criticism of the invasion of Iraq from personal attacks on the U.S.A.

In an ironic way, the reactions to the cartoon published in *The Tech* demonstrate the validity of the points made by the author in a way he probably never thought possible. If a mere cartoon that isn’t even funny published in a small college newspaper is subject to this type of attack, what chance do more basic human rights stand?

Miguel Valença Pires G

U.S. Should Look At Own Ethics

We are witnessing the last stages of a great humanitarian tragedy, being acted out in one of the largest and most powerful countries on earth. A small ethnic group, poor in economic and technological prowess but rich in culture and tradition, is slowly being smothered. The group has succumbed to the overwhelming military force of a larger, more advanced nation. Much of their land has been stolen, and their culture has largely been destroyed. Their leader is currently engaged in a desperate attempt to gain independence for his people, but has little chance of success.

I am referring, of course, to the Lakota Sioux Indians, who on December 20, 2007 declared sovereign nation status in large sections of Nebraska, Montana, Wyoming, and North and South Dakota. So why bring up the struggles of Native Americans? Because of all the attention that has been given to the recent Tibet protests. The parallels between the U.S. conquest of Native Americans and China’s actions in Tibet are enough to make any bleeding heart protester squirm. I am hardly an expert on Native American history, but I have studied enough to have a basic knowledge of America’s sad record in this area. And just in case you are inclined to argue that we have since made amends for our wrongdoing, I do not think having the right to own casinos can make up for widespread forcible seizure of land and destruction of culture.

Let us assume, for the sake of argument, that most of the negative things that have been said about China’s actions towards Tibet are true: that Tibet was indeed an independent country, that China launched a brutal invasion, that Chi-

na has since ruled Tibet oppressively, and that Tibetan culture has suffered. What China has done can still hardly be called worse than what the U.S. has done to its native peoples (at least the Tibetans are still physically living on much of their ancestral land). In other words, unless these protesters are prepared to give virtually all U.S. territory back to the people from whom it was stolen, they should probably think twice about scolding the Chinese over Tibet.

Furthermore, mistreatment of Native Americans is hardly the only example of the U.S. abusing minority groups (slavery comes to mind). Nor has such behavior been relegated to a distant past. America continues to prosecute a vicious war on drugs that is infamously targeted more towards poor African Americans than rich white folks. Problems with race persist in other ways as well, such as our racially segregated inner cities or our ham-fisted approach to immigration.

Other Western anger focuses on China’s supposed complicity in the Darfur genocide. As the story goes, China is preventing serious action in Darfur in return for access to Sudanese oil. Again, there are uncomfortable parallels with America. During the Cold War, the U.S. all too frequently got into bed with bad guys for the sake of fighting communism. We gave Saddam Hussein much of the weaponry that we then had to fight against in 1991 and again in 2003. We funneled weapons into Afghanistan to aid the fight against the Soviets in the 1980s. Elements of the groups we aided then morphed into the Taliban, and we all know where that went. Saudi Arabia continues to be an American ally, even though a Saudi woman cannot seek help from the police even after her husband has shot her twice (see the article on page 64 of last week’s Economist).

I am in no way interested in excusing or justifying oppression. If the Chinese government is violating human rights (and it probably is, though it is hardly alone), everyone who values liberty should be saddened. I am also hardly anti-American. I am a native born white American male. I am intensely patriotic and proud of my country. But patriotism should not mean ignorance, and it certainly should not mean hypocrisy. If Westerners are serious about wanting to clean up the world, perhaps they should stop screaming at the neighbors and focus more on the mess in our own back yard.

Jamie B. Edwards '08



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IT'S FRIDAY

Brought to you by CAMPUS LIFE

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Summer Style

Figuring Out Fashion

By Manisha Padi and Ying Yang

Summer is fast approaching, and with warm weather and no classes comes a new focus on fashion. Indeed, this is the perfect time to experiment with your own fashion sense, and get a better understanding of what trends, fits, and colors suit you. Although we're excited to get started with this time of year, we wanted to warn you all to avoid some of the pitfalls that can keep you from feeling the full warmth of summer.

1. Be careful with light colors. What looked good on you in black might not look the same in white. Light colors make you look bigger, and can be seen through when stretched across the body. So, when choosing white or light colored garments, be sure to choose form-fitting layers underneath that will show your summery self off in the best way possible.

2. Look for sheer fabrics. Sheer is very big this spring and summer. This year, it's more about covering the skin subtly than blatantly trying to reveal it. Try to invest in tops and dresses that are chiffon and have subtle sheer details (sheer sleeves, transparent fronted dresses, etc.). Guys, this works for you as well. Light fabrics make it possible to be cool while still wearing staples like collared shirts. Just remember, thin fabrics don't have to be low quality fabrics — to check this, pull on the seams and the fabric to make sure they have some give, and check carefully for imperfections in the store.

3. Find swimwear that suits your body. What looks good on you is what makes you feel comfortable. Girls, don't be afraid of one piece or tankini's as long as they are figure flattering. Two pieces are not always the best choice, since even the cutest bikini can't outshine a bad fit or an exposed flaw. Guys, find the right length for your leg. Tall guys should look for longer leg lengths, to balance out their proportions, while shorter guys can accentuate legs with shorter lengths.

4. Show only your best skin. Take care of your skin. Make sure you use sunscreen when you are outside for extended amounts of time, since no one likes peeling and burnt skin. Accentuate areas that you're confident about. Be particularly careful with un-toned shoulders and arms. Just because you can't see them in the mirror doesn't mean other people can't. When in doubt, go for cap sleeved shirts with other, interesting details. Choose the right length for shorts for your leg, and be careful with tight Bermudas or other in-between lengths, since they can often reveal the worst of your legs.

5. Accessories are key. This season is

all about bold, bright colors to contrast your neutrals. From hot pink pumps to patterned outfits, it's all about the colors you choose to wear. Do make sure you have at least one neutral purse. Guys, remember that summer is the best time to experiment with beachy jewelry and sunglasses, so go ahead and try on accessories you hadn't considered. You might be surprised.

6. Focus on health and posture. When you're showing skin, your health matters. Try easy workouts. Walk or bike every where. Swimming is a great full body toning exercise. Just going to the beach is exercise if you walk in the sand. Since the weather will be nice, it is best to walk to places as well. Also, summer is a good time to learn to keep your shoulders back, since they show through light fabrics. But most importantly, wear sunscreen. If you want a tan, use a lotion like Jergen's Natural Glow. However, if you choose to use self tanner, make sure it is applied correctly and evenly. If you find yourself with a smear of color that you hadn't intended on, use lemon juice to smooth out the color.

7. Embrace colors and layer. Experiment with both colors and lack thereof. It is best to mix colors with neutrals. Don't wear heavy colors like royal purple, hunter green, or navy blue and instead choose hot pink, orange, or yellow. Pair them up with white, khaki, or cream bottoms.

8. Remember summer won't last forever. Invest money only in pieces that cover many seasons. Guys, look for light sweaters, polos, and T-shirts that wouldn't look out of place in the fall. Girls, try Polos, cardigans, versatile skirts and dresses, and neutral accessories. Get the bright, flowy miniskirt at a cheaper store. Also, remember that just because it's summer doesn't mean it'll always be warm. Nights and rainy days can get cold, so remember to look for versatile sweaters and hoodies to complement your tanktops and shorts.

With these tips in mind, you can't go wrong this summer. So, take this opportunity to focus a little bit more on yourself, feel great, and make those life changes that MIT never allowed you to make. And remember, sometimes all you need is just some time spent getting back in touch with yourself, and what better way to do that than through fashion. As this semester comes to a close, this will be our last column at Figuring Out Fashion, but we have loved sharing our thoughts and plans with you this term. We hope that you'll take some of our advice to heart and that you remember to value your own health and happiness during this summer and beyond. Good luck.

Ask A TA

Dear Ask A TA,
How do I tell if my TA thinks I'm cute?

—Yearning to Know

Dear Yearning,

The reliable criteria for determining if a TA thinks you are cute are as follows. First determine if the TA in question is in fact your TA. If yes, then determine if your gender is compatible with your TA's sexual orientation. If yes again, congratulations! Your TA thinks you are cute.

Why is this method so robust? Remember who your TAs are. Your TA is either a *graduate_student@mit.edu*, or an *overachieving_undergraduate@mit.edu* (which is saying a lot). When not TAing you, your TAs are either writing software, studying in preparation for the writing of software, or eating ramen noodles. This is not a lifestyle that facilitates the meeting of potential mates.

Now, consider your recitation section — a room full of young coeds, their eyes and ears fixed on your TA. This is the most attention your TA has gotten in quite a while. It's flattering. And tremendously exciting. And some of these coeds are even so interested in spending time with the TA that they'll seek out the TA outside of class. Sometimes this just means going to specified "office hours," but at times it almost reaches the level of full-fledged stalking, with students constantly e-mailing, calling, and stopping by the TA's place of work or home unannounced. For most people, this would be disturbing. But for your lonely hearted TA, this is probably the most exciting turn their social life has ever taken.

So, if your TA thinks that you are so cute, why doesn't he make a move? Again, he isn't just a TA, he is a *TA@mit.edu*. Why would you expect him to act any differently than *anybody_else@mit.edu*? Just like the rest

of the MIT populace, he is shy and socially awkward. In fact, when talking about relationships, he'll probably get nervous enough simply elaborating the relationship between impedance and frequency. A discussion about a real romantic relationship might make his poor little TA-ing heart explode. And then you'd definitely never find out what kind of questions will be on the final.

More importantly just like the rest of the MIT student body, he's probably Course VI. As such, he's most likely had this important TAing specification beaten into his skull — DO NOT hit on your students. It's the cardinal rule of TAing and is specified as a user requirement of the TAship interface.

Now in regards to this forbidden attraction between you and your TA, the TA is presented with an interesting logical dilemma: the reason that you are interested in him is the same as the reason that your romance is forbidden. The classical solution to this game theory challenge is for both of you to wait until the semester is over to hook up. However, the logical basis of this solution is clearly flawed, and both you and your TA know it. Will he still be attractive when he no longer knows what is going to be on the final ahead of time? Seriously? I thought not. There is a very limited window of time in which you will find your TA cute. Your TA, though, will still find you cute long after he has marked off points for not showing work on the last problem of your final. So give it time. Wait until the end of the semester. Then, years later, if you are in dire relationship straits, send your ex-TA an e-mail and say you need to brush up on impedance over a romantic candle lit dinner. I guarantee that he will come down from the Athena cluster to join you. That is unless he is TAing another bunch of cuties that semester.

—Dr. James Graham Ruby G

Overheard at MIT

"No! You're turning it the wrong way! Turn it in the negative k hat direction!"
—Someone sitting at a table with a Lazy Susan

"Dude, that was the wrong vector."
—In an IM soccer game after someone kicked the ball straight up in the air instead of toward the goal

Top 5 Recent Disaster-Inspired Jazz Tracks

1. "In Time of Need," Terence Blanchard
2. "Tsunami Song," Kenny Garrett
3. "Litany Against Fear," Christian Scott
4. "Frenchman Street Strut," Devin Phillips
5. "Without a Song," Sonny Rollins

Jazz artists can draw inspiration even from the most devastating events. Most recently, the effects of Hurricane Katrina on NOLA, the cradle of jazz, lead to an outpouring of artistic emotion. Here are five of the most powerful cuts motivated by the major disasters of this decade by both some well-established players and some rising young ones. Music heals.

There's lots of great jazz, some of it even motivated by happy things, happening at WMBR 88.1 FM. Listen to Running Returning Sunday at 10 p.m., Research & Development Monday at 2 p.m., The Jazz Train Tuesday at 4 p.m. and Coffeetime on Fridays at 2 p.m.. You can also stream shows from up to two weeks in the past at *WMBR.org*.

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Nominations due by midnight May 5th

ARTS

CONCERT REVIEW

Are You That Girl?

Wish I'd Been Deaf For Third Eye Blind

By Sarah Dupuis

ARTS EDITOR

Third Eye Blind
Johnson Athletic Center
April 25, 2008

Dear girl from Boston College who stood
in front of me at the Third Eye Blind show,

I knew you were trouble the moment I laid eyes on you ... well, at least from the moment I saw your twin sister, who was straddling her brotesque boyfriend's polo-sporting shoulders and waving her cell phone in the air. She was bellowing unintelligibly from her amorous post, summoning some unknown creature towards her while hovering above a crowd dense with sweaty tank top-wearing bodies. That creature was you. As Howie Day crooned lamely over his weakly rhythmic acoustic strummings, you wiggled your tanning-salon-brown body directly in front of me, and gyrated and squealed as Day finished up his hit song "Collide." At that point, it was hard to distinguish you from the rest of the rock-concert-virgin fans that packed Johnson Athletic Center; they were all taking pictures of each other with arms extended, completely ignoring

the (admittedly boring) troubadour on stage. But once Day nonchalantly unplugged his wooden instrument of aural mediocrity, you and your six-foot-six boyfriend started to really piss me off.

Have you ever been to a concert before? No? Here are some hints for next time you decide to doom a venue with your presence; hopefully, you'll be able to avoid the potential violence I might've unleashed on you had your body odor not turned me away before I had the chance. *Tip 1:* When everyone else at the show is pushing forward, please do not push back. Sandwich meats can only withstand so much pressure. *Tip 2:* Making out with and humping your boyfriend while dancing like my mom doesn't really conserve space, either. *Tip 3:* When aforementioned sandwich meat kindly asks you to stop leaning back into her, turning around to face your victim and continually screaming "I don't know what you want!" with vodka-scented breath probably won't aid the conflict. *Tip 4:* If all else fails, you should probably abstain from rubbing yourself on me to prove a point. All it's proving is that your bacne covers a pretty massive

surface area.

Lucky for you, I managed to escape the hulking crowd and make it to the bleachers, where my friend (who'd had less tolerance with you and had already fled your general vicinity) was sitting. Our much improved and far less sweltering spot did little to combat the ruined mood of the evening. Third Eye Blind took the stage with presence, no doubt, but it was the kind of presence that makes people like you shriek and turns off anyone who actually likes music. "I have a feeling we're gonna' have a real good time tonight" lead singer/asshole in a top hat Stephan Jenkins proclaimed, and followed it up with, "I don't know what it is, but you guys have me in a really good mood!" He proceeded to lead his rag-tag replacement band — comprised of none of the original musicians from 3eb's 1997 seminal self-titled release — through a set of mostly new material, filled with lyrical leakage about boob jobs and non-dairy creamer. I am sure you were one of the many ticket holders who continually shouted for "Semi-Charmed Life," and to be honest, I was internally shouting with you; ever since the

turn of the twenty-first century, this band has been putting out material that would make any sane songwriter want to step off that ledge, not step back from it. But don't be fooled into thinking we're allies because of my distaste for Jenkins' new tunes; unlike you, I didn't eat it up when the band played a terribly unlistenable set a-la MTV Unplugged (minus the ability) on a makeshift stage at the back of Johnson, nor did I applaud when a random girl came on stage to melodramatically strum an inaudible acoustic guitar (royal WTF?). In fact, between your behavior and 3eb's performance, I'm willing to say that out of the many shows I've attended, Spring Weekend was the worst concert of my life. Don't take it as a compliment, but I fear the fault probably lies more with the band than with you.

Anyway, I tried to find you on Facebook after the concert to tell you how much you suck as a human, but I'm just not a skilled enough stalker. So you're safe for now. But if I run into you next year when Hanson or whoever plays MIT, you better be sober enough to run.

Hate,
Sarah

OPERA REVIEW

Lyric Opera's Last Production

Ending On A Bad Note With ‘Abduction’

By Balaji Mani

STAFF WRITER

Mozart's The Abduction from the Seraglio
Boston Lyric Opera
May 2 and May 6 at 7:30 p.m., May 4 at 4
p.m.

It's no surprise that in Boston, a city inundated with eager students, free arts events harness high attendance. Last week, hundreds of such students attended a free performance of the Boston Lyric Opera's last production of the season, *The Abduction from the Seraglio*. Though this is one of Mozart's lesser known operas, the theatre filled to near full capacity. The Boston Lyric Opera has been offering free tickets to the public (but specifically targeting students) for the dress rehearsals of all its major productions. Before the beginning of the overture, Janice Mancini Del Sesto, the exuberant General Director of the BLO, arrived in the left box seat to announce this season's recipient of the Stephen Shrestinian Award for Excellence. She then proudly led the audience in a grand applause for Joseph Valone, a Boston University music program alumnus; the award was a cash prize for a young, up-and-coming performer wishing to further his or her career in professional opera.

Before she left the box seat and with spotlight still shining upon her, Del Sesto warned

the audience that since this was a dress rehearsal, the cast could stop at any moment in order to implement last minute changes. Immediately thereafter, a smiling Willie Anthony Waters walked out, waving his conductor's baton toward the audience. As applause for him faded, the orchestra began the overture. This passage of music, shorter than other Mozart overtures, set the tone for the rest of the evening. Instead of containing memorable melodies and varied tempos and dynamics, the overture meandered around a few chords.

The stage curtain opened up to reveal a cross section of two neighboring cars on the Orient Express. A projection, displaying an antique map of the train's course, glimmered on the curtain for the duration of the opera. This set decision, probably made by stage director James Robinson, created an uncomfortably cramped and narrow view of the stage. Clearly, Robinson was trying to imitate the actual small quarters of even the most posh cars on the Orient Express, but the half-raised curtains obscured so much of the stage's natural space that it was difficult to get a clear perspective, even from the balcony seats.

Because all the scenes happen in one train car or the other, set designer Allen Moyer cleverly devised a moving set on wheels

that shifted from left to right during scene changes. This not only gave the impression that we were still on a train with the cast, but also helped to solve the horizontal spacing issues on stage. The story of *The Abduction from the Seraglio* is a universal one, involving love, jealousy, desire, and risk. Belmonte, a Spanish nobleman, has arrived on the Orient Express to find his wife, Constanze, who was captured earlier by pirates and sold to the Pasha Selim from Istanbul.

While there is much opportunity for drama and humor here, this new interpretation of *Abduction* proved weak and unmoving. Sung in a very traditional operatic style, most musical numbers showcased vocalists singing a small number of lines for numerous repetitions. This rendered most of the solo arias dull and boring. The orchestral parts failed to introduce new and exciting motifs to balance the lack of variety in the singing. It appears as though Robinson tried to exaggerate the humor in this opera in order to appeal to a wider audience; the result, however, was an awful display of poorly-executed slapstick scenes. Osmin, one of the Pasha's servants, oversees the duties of a lesser servant. The two get into a scuffle so that Osmin may show his power over the weaker Pedrillo, and at the end of the scene, Osmin hog-ties Pedrillo up in rope,

kicks him on the floor, and finishes by showing an apple in Pedrillo's mouth. This whole brawl looked utterly silly and immature on stage, and detracted from the whole performance.

Subsequent scenes included slapstick comedy that did not complement the drama of this opera in an appropriate way. A closer look at the program for this opera reveals that most of the actors are making their Boston Lyric Opera debut in this production. Their lack of experience working together definitely came through during the many duets and ensemble pieces. Specifically, during Belmonte's and Constanze's duet, they sing with little interaction. They do not naturally appear to be lovers on stage, but rather as individual singers vying for personal attention.

As the Boston Lyric Opera's last production of the season, *The Abduction from the Seraglio* was not a good choice. However, it could also be Robinson's poor decision-making that turned this production into a caricature. It seems as though the goal here was mass appeal and cheap laughter rather than achieving the pinnacle of fine art. Though you still have another week to catch this opera (if you can stomach the crude humor and inexperienced singers), the Boston Lyric Opera has another season to get things right.

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Tuesday, May 6, 2008

4 PM • Stata Kirsch Auditorium (32-123)

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Awards Convocation 2008



The Best Concerts of May 2008

Myriad Shows Amidst Finals and Spring Weather

By Sarah Dupuis
ARTS EDITOR

April showers bring May flowers, and in this case, the downpour of ex-lead-singer shows last month has led to a hefty crop of diverse acts (okay, Jeremy Enigk snuck in there, somehow). There are so many notable groups playing locally this month that I didn't even get to list (The Teenagers, Los Campesinos!, The New Deal, Firewater, Eyedea & Abilities and Kevin Devine, to name a few), so I highly recommend scouring venue Web sites to see if I skipped over one of your favorites. But this is my column, after all, and so my picks get top billing. With that I present to you May's best shows; especially notable ones are marked with stars.

Friday, May 2 – Saturday, May 3

Steer Roast
Senior House Courtyard
First Night: Ho-Ag, Oxford Collapse, Neptune and Professor Murder
Second Night: Space Faces, Big Bear, Wzt Hearts, Excepter

Trance, electronica, and easy listening are perhaps not the kinds of musical genres this rockist writer might've booked had she been responsible for Steer Roast's lineup, but it's certainly worth attending a bacchanal in your own backyard. Avoid Wzt Hearts and Excepter, but be sure to catch Space Faces and Big Bear.

Saturday, May 3

Monsters of Mock IV: Son of Seattle SMACKdown!
Featuring Backseat Lover as Pearl Jam, Angry Chair as Alice in Chains
The Middle East (Downstairs), 18+, \$15

Okay, so Pearl Jam is touring nationally and Alice in Chains is working on a new album with William DuVall singing. But tickets for the former will be way too expensive, and replacing your dead lead singer is downright creepy. Consider this Monsters of Mock show your best and cheapest chance at a musical time machine (outside of your own Walkman).

*Rjd2**
Paradise Rock Club, 18+, \$18

The Third Hand is a serious departure from Rjd2's previous sample-heavy works, because it features him playing instruments and singing on almost every track. Expect more of a pop rock feel at this live performance.

Friday, May 9

*El Perro Del Mar**
The Middle East (Upstairs), 18+, \$15

Swede singer Sarah Assbring is absolutely miserable, and with her melancholic pop melodies and lo-fi production, she'll do everything in her power to make you miserable, too. But rest assured, it's the good kind of miserable; think of a cuter, female Morrissey type dressed as a 50s housewife and singing with The Shangri-Las.

Sunday, May 11

Phantom Planet
Bank of America Pavillion, AA, \$33.50
I don't care what anyone has to say. Phantom Planet's 2004 self-titled did everything The Strokes ever wanted to do and did it a million times better. The melodies are memorable, Jason Schwartzman's drumming is powerful, and Greenwald's formerly O.C.-friendly vocals growl and snarl with the coolest of the cool.

New release Raise the Dead partially returns to the land of radio friendly, but maintains at least some rock aesthetic. They're opening for Panic at the Disco, Motion City Soundtrack and The Hush Sound; leave early.

Tuesday, May 13

British Sea Power
Paradise Rock Club, 18+, \$15
Brighton quartet asks the question Do You Like Rock Music? on latest LP. Perfect for post-punk lovers.

Friday, May 16

Bell X1
Paradise Rock Club, 18+, \$15
This Irish band, formerly called Juniper, once featured troubadour Damien Rice as part of their lineup. Since his eviction, Bell X1 has morphed into a weird but accessible rock act that's dead on about seventy percent of the time. Let's hope May 16 will be one of those nights.

Saturday, May 17

Thee Silver Mt. Zion Memorial Orchestra & Tra-La-La Band
The Middle East (Downstairs), 18+, \$14
Canadian band commonly abbreviated (for good reason) as Silver Mt Zion shares members with avant-gardist post-rockers Godspeed You Black Emperor!; strings, choir-like vocals and a punk rock ethos characterize this group's performance.

The Black Keys

Orpheum Theatre, AA, \$25

Bluesy duo tours in support of Danger Mouse-produced Attack and Release. Check out leading single "Strange Times" online; it's less lo-fi as past releases, but you'll see it's just as rocking.

Wednesday, May 21

*Local H**
Harpers Ferry, 18+, \$12
Rock twosome has consistently released albums at fairly regular intervals, grounded by the popularity of single "Bound for the Floor." Lead singer Scott Lucas is particularly notable for installing bass pickups on his electric guitar. Check out their notoriously high-energy show in Allston Rock City.

Sunday, May 25

*Islands**
The Middle East (Downstairs), AA, \$15
J'aime's departed, Nick's dropped the Diamonds, and the singles from upcoming Arm's Way are not even half as good as "Where There's A Will There's A Whalebone." But this show will probably be better than almost anything else musical happening this month, hence its stamp of approval.

Saturday, May 31

Jeremy Enigk
Great Scott, 21+, \$16
Former Sunny Day Real Estate frontman has turned to Christianity and scoring soundtracks (most notably Pixies-heavy The United States of Leland) since the breakup of his emo first-born. Now he's about to release his fifth solo album; catch that material live at this underage-unfriendly Fenway Recording Sessions gig.

free concert!

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Kick Ass
A Cappella

Friday, May 2nd

34-101

8pm

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ERIC SCHMIEDL—THE TECH

Tech Photographers Take to the Skies!

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RICARDO RAMIREZ—THE TECH



RICARDO RAMIREZ—THE TECH

Andreas Mershin of the MIT Flying Club took Tech photographers Ricardo Ramirez and Eric Schmiedl up for an aerial photo shoot of the MIT campus on April 26, 2008.

(clockwise from top-left)

Killian Court, Building 10, the Great Dome, the Little Dome, Building 3, and Building 4 as seen from the air.

Dorm row viewed from 1,500 feet up in a Cessna C172.

Boston's Back Bay area and downtown.

Members of the flying club prepared for the flyover with a "FLY!" message on Briggs Field.

Andreas Mershin preps the Cessna for flight at Sterling Airport in Sterling, Mass.



ERIC SCHMIEDL—THE TECH



ERIC SCHMIEDL—THE TECH

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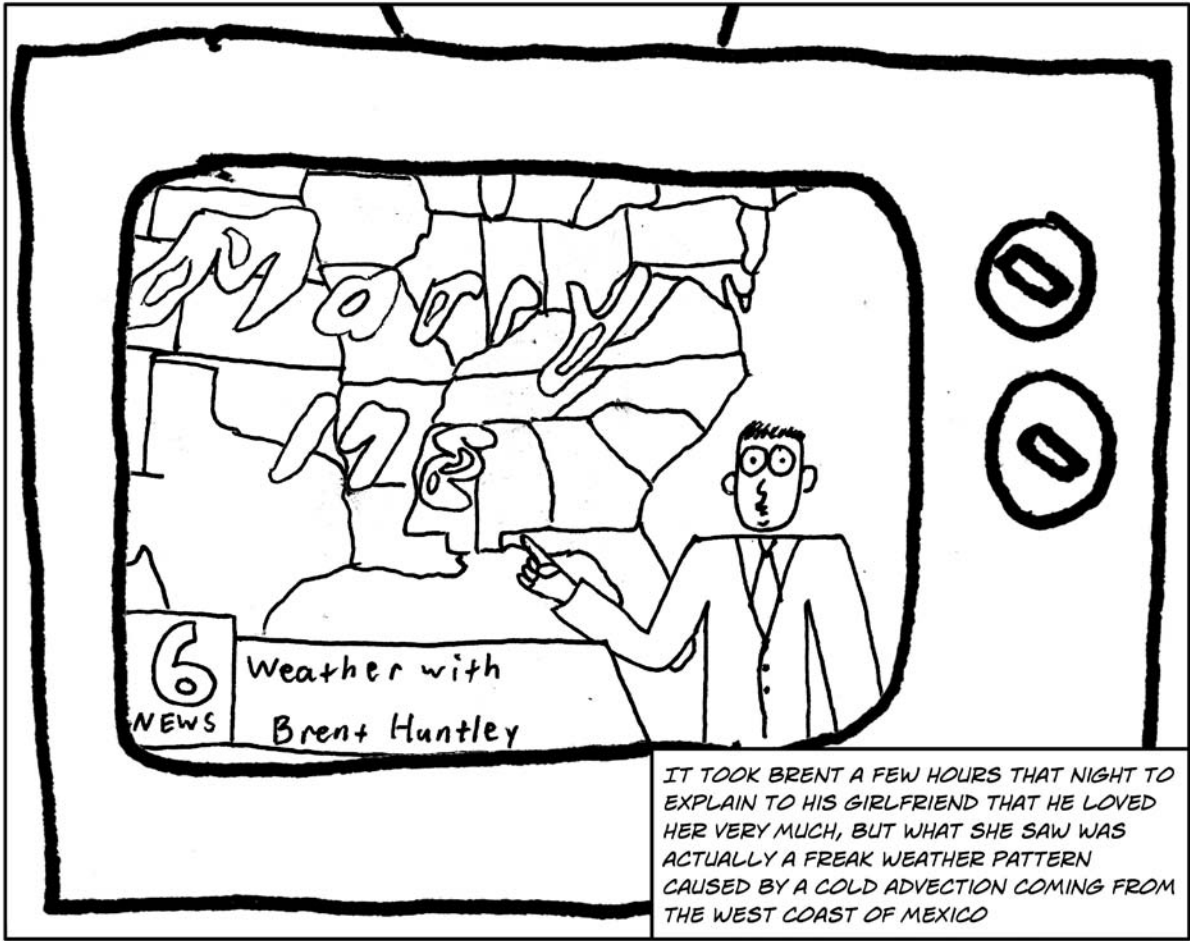


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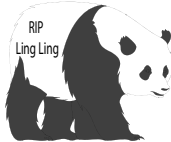
Steal My Comic

by Michael Ciuffo



The Daily Blunderbuss

by Ben Peters



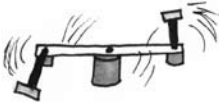
Helpful Last Minute 2.007 Designs

Option #1 - Duct tape all of your motors to a 2x4 and hope for the best.

ex. 1 "Whimsical wonderbot"



ex. 2 "the shredder"



Grade: C-
-shoddy work, but creative!

Option #2 - Roomba

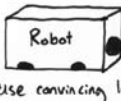
Just press "Spot clean"



Grade: D+
- Plagiarism...
- sleek look, no points scored.

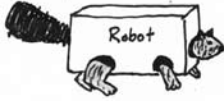
Option #3 Two words: Squirrels

Step 1: Cut some holes in a box:



use convincing labels

Step 2: Put your squirrel in that box

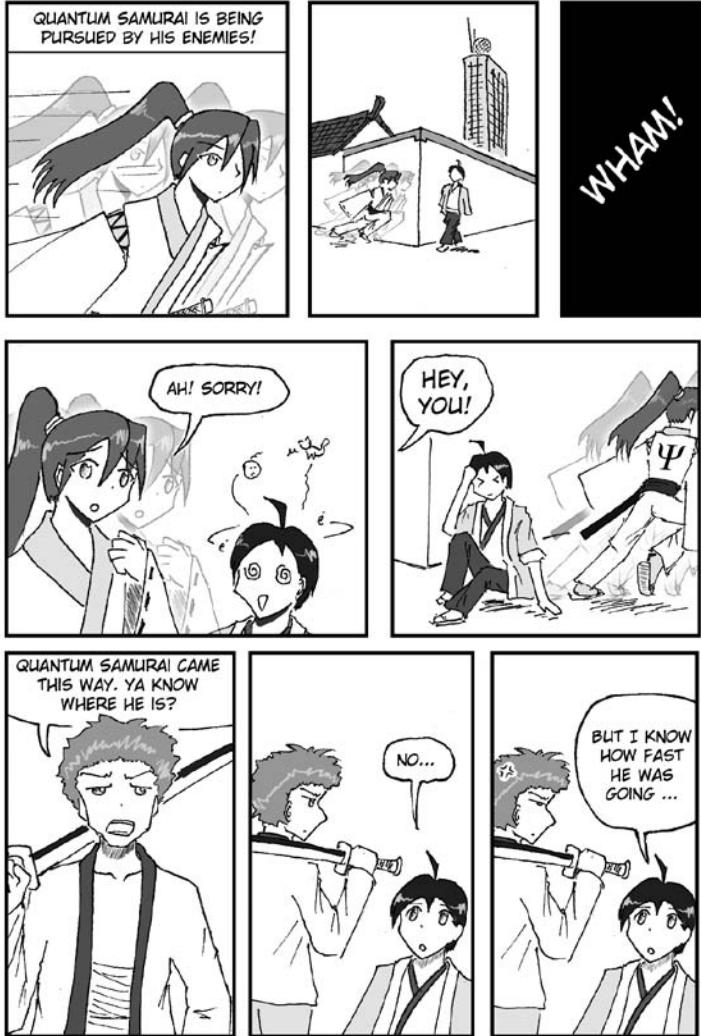


Hint: Grey squirrels totally look metallic

Grade: C+
- unique fusion of biology and mechanical knowledge.
- not a robot

Quantum Samurai

by Justin Lan, Maryia Lu, and Kim Baldauf



WWW.NONSENSE-WARS.COM

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9. Solution on page 13.

su|do|ku
© Puzzles by Pappocom

	6		8	2		5	
		3	1	7	9		
		1			8		
	3					7	
6				5			4
	1					8	
		8			4		
		9	4		1	7	
	4		7	5		2	

Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 14

ACROSS

- 1 At any time
- 5 Questions
- 9 Set to go
- 14 Eternal City
- 15 Give a bias to
- 16 Clarinetist Shaw
- 17 Wander about
- 18 Trigonometric function
- 19 Fools
- 20 Expectation from an amulet?
- 23 Hangman's knot
- 24 Spicy condiment
- 25 Hiatus
- 28 "Le coq _"
- 29 Pair
- 31 "Amadeus" role
- 33 Tel Aviv_
- 35 Reservoir filler
- 36 Flack who is terse?
- 42 Scallion's relative

- 43 Short putt
- 44 Something for nothing
- 48 Blue
- 49 Half of MXII
- 52 Pismire
- 53 To date
- 55 MacDonald's refrain
- 57 Stick, already!
- 59 _ for the ride
- 62 Non-negotiable
- 63 Actress Kedrova
- 64 Pooh's creator
- 65 Pac-10 team
- 66 Actress Moran
- 67 Old World snake
- 68 Produces eggs
- 69 Miller play, "All My _"

DOWN

- 1 To-do list item
- 2 Caribbean cult

- 3 Key of Boccherini's string quartet
- 4 Romulus' twin
- 5 Exec.'s aide
- 6 Takes first cut
- 7 Ethiopia's neighbor
- 8 Expands
- 9 Scamp
- 10 Composer Satie
- 11 24-hr. cash source
- 12 Tango move
- 13 You bet!
- 21 Auto style
- 22 U.N. host
- 25 Materiel
- 26 Very dry
- 27 Bowling targets
- 30 Craft of sci-fi
- 32 Something to pump?
- 33 Boxer LaMotta

- 34 Towards the rear
- 36 _ Romeo (Italian car)
- 37 Actor Bruce
- 38 Bump into
- 39 Coming out of the sunrise
- 40 New Deal program
- 41 Increase girth
- 45 Wisconsin mascot
- 46 Sorta
- 47 Real looker
- 49 1980 Oscar-winning actor
- 50 One of the strings
- 51 Hawkeyes
- 54 Writer Jong
- 56 Wastes time
- 57 Ms. Bancroft
- 58 Latin 101 conjugation
- 59 GP group
- 60 Pot cover
- 61 Run to seed

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
17					18					19				
20				21					22					
23						24						25	26	27
28				29	30			31			32			
				33				34			35			
36	37	38						39	40	41				
42								43						
44				45	46	47		48				49	50	51
52				53			54			55	56			
				57					58					
59	60	61					62				63			
64							65				66			
67							68				69			

Theory of Pete

by Cai GoGwilt

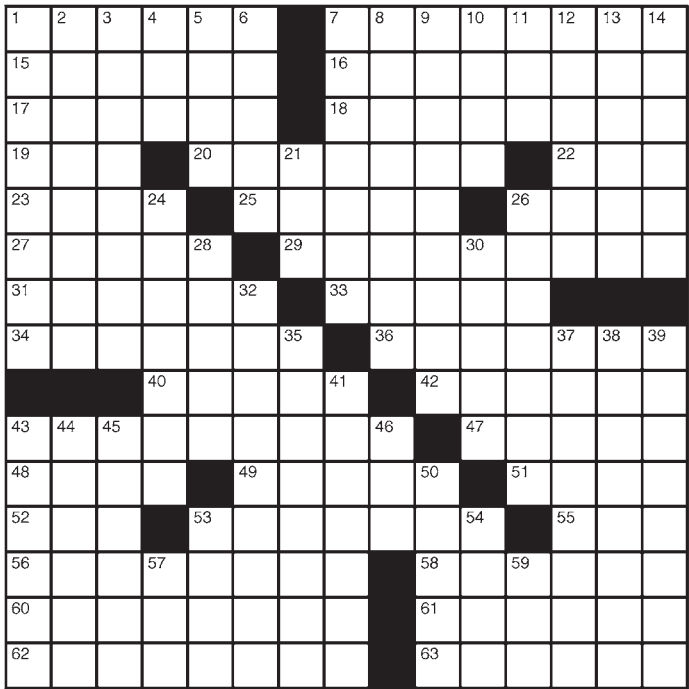


Doonesbury
BY GARRY TRUDEAU

Dilbert® by Scott Adams

Bonus Puzzle

Solution, page 13



ACROSS

- 1 Washington port
- 7 Soaked up
- 15 Library patron
- 16 Final stroke
- 17 Verdi opera
- 18 Telephone pole adjunct
- 19 Cry out loud
- 20 Formula math
- 22 You, to Yves
- 23 Begged
- 25 Begin's peace partner
- 26 Financial hole
- 27 Buenos __, Arg.
- 29 Sweats
- 31 Actress Meryl
- 33 Film featuring "I Only Have

Eyes for You"

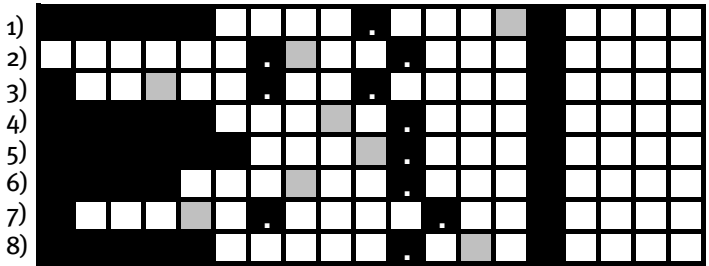
- 34 Improve to meet a standard
- 36 Putting a band around
- 40 Best and Ferber
- 42 Norse goddesses of destiny
- 43 Group of business people
- 47 __ Fe, NM
- 48 Beer picks
- 49 Fundamental principle
- 51 Trail mix
- 52 "Le coq __," Rimsky-Korsakoff opera
- 53 Upfront monies
- 55 Soak up rays
- 56 Well-read

- 58 Diminutive size
- 60 Lifts
- 61 Canine coverage
- 62 Painful feeling
- 63 Fast-lane malady

DOWN

- 1 Infringement
- 2 Siliceous meteorite
- 3 Australian capital
- 4 Harem area
- 5 Suvari of "American Beauty"
- 6 Seed coats
- 7 Gave one's consent
- 8 Cartland and Walters
- 9 Team player
- 10 Pelion's twin peak
- 11 Civil libs.
- 12 Stiff hat
- 13 Don one's vestments
- 14 Relinquishes
- 21 Empty space
- 24 Becomes more profound
- 26 Washcloth
- 28 Plant starters
- 30 Mexican moola
- 32 Interrupt periodically
- 35 Artists' range of colors
- 37 Very fast
- 38 Fertilizers
- 39 Small anchors
- 41 Completely cloudy
- 43 Long-handled servers
- 44 Philippines port
- 45 Olympic discus legend
- 46 Arthur of "Maude"
- 50 Does data entry
- 53 Mediterranean port
- 54 E-mailed
- 57 Night before
- 59 Black goo

- 1) 1850439753
- 2) 0231084129
- 3) 0292706928
- 4) 0132932261
- 5) 0813115299
- 6) 0863278604
- 7) 9050060412
- 8) 0853347948



<http://www.refworks.com/refshare/?site=029991120201200000/RWWS>

/Puzzle

Think you've solved it?

If you're an MIT student and your answer is correct, you could win a new iPod Nano! Go to libraries.mit.edu/puzzle to get a copy or submit your answer by May 5th, 2008 to be eligible for the drawing.



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Gilbert and Sullivan Players Present Ruddigore



MIT Gilbert and Sullivan Players perform Ruddigore or The Witch's Curse, a comic opera by Arthur Sullivan and W.S. Gilbert. Performances will be held in La Sala de Puerto Rico 5/2-5/4 and 5/8-5/10.

The play is produced by Robert Morrison '96, and directed by Garry Zacheiss '00 and Ky Lowenhaupt. The musical director is Joshua G. Miller G.

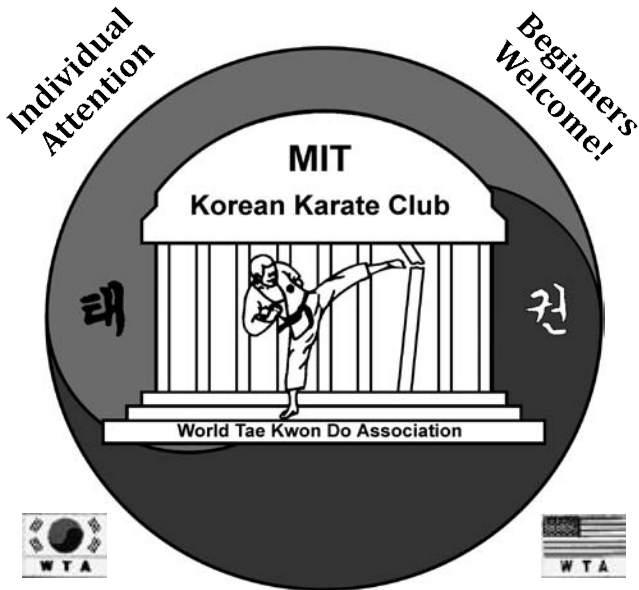
Photographs by Noah Spies.

Featured, from top to bottom,

Ellen Putney Moore

Michelle Attner G

Lyman Opie



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Ben Huan '11 receives a plate of “Gua Bun,” a traditional Taiwanese snack from Association of Taiwanese Students’ member Anne P. Liu '08 during the ATS’s annual cultural fair “Strait to Taiwan” in the Stata Center on Monday, April 28.

WILLIAM YEE—THE TECH

Private Acquisition Of 3Com by Chinese Corp. Blocked by U.S.

3Com, from Page 1

after a bid to take 3Com private was blocked by federal regulators. Bain Capital Partners put together a \$2.2 billion deal in which Huawei would acquire a 16 percent stake in 3Com. But the plan came under fire from members of Congress, because the TippingPoint business makes network security gear used by US government agencies, including the military. Huawei has close ties to China’s military. Critics worried that it might share technical details of TippingPoint products with Chinese intelligence services, helping them break into US government computer networks.

The Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, which can block deals that jeopardize national security, said in February that the Bain-Huawei plan was unacceptable. 3Com is now trying to collect a \$66 million fee from Bain, to compensate it for the failure of the transaction.

Solution to Sudoku
from page 10

9	6	4	8	3	2	1	5	7
5	8	3	1	6	7	9	4	2
2	7	1	5	4	9	8	3	6
8	3	5	2	1	4	6	7	9
6	9	7	3	5	8	2	1	4
4	1	2	9	7	6	5	8	3
7	5	8	6	2	3	4	9	1
3	2	9	4	8	1	7	6	5
1	4	6	7	9	5	3	2	8

Solution to Bonus
from page 11

T	A	C	O	M	A	A	B	S	O	R	B	E	D
R	E	A	D	E	R	C	A	P	S	T	O	N	E
E	R	N	A	N	I	C	R	O	S	S	A	R	M
S	O	B	A	L	G	E	B	R	A	T	O	I	
P	L	E	D	S	A	D	A	T	D	E	B	T	
A	I	R	E	S	P	E	R	S	P	I	R	E	S
S	T	R	E	E	P	D	A	M	E	S			
S	H	A	P	E	U	P	S	A	S	H	I	N	G
			E	D	N	A	S	N	O	R	N	I	R
L	I	O	N	S	C	L	U	B	S	A	N	T	A
A	L	E	S	T	E	N	E	T	G	O	R	P	
D	O	R		O	U	T	L	A	Y	S	T	A	N
L	I	T	E	R	A	T	E	P	E	T	I	T	E
E	L	E	V	A	T	E	S	E	N	A	M	E	L
S	O	R	E	N	E	S	S	S	T	R	E	S	S

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New Dean for Student Life Faces Dining Challenges, Says UA Prez

Student Life, from Page 1

current Vice President for Institute Affairs Kirk D. Kolenbrander filled in as interim dean from June 8 until Benedict's appointment took effect.

Of the candidates, only a small number come from within MIT — two or three, Holmes said. He said it was important for a student life dean to understand the MIT student culture, to collaborate with students, and to work with administrators to effect change on students' behalf.

Among the challenges facing a new dean, Holmes said that food was the most prominent problem: dining is "the first disaster that needs to be

solved," he said. If the new dean can improve the way people eat at MIT, he will earn "credibility and capital," Holmes said.

Holmes also said that his task force on student engagement, an effort to give students a predictable role in Institute decisions, could benefit from a student life dean's involvement.

If the UA is to be reorganized, as incoming UA president Noah S. Jessop '09 plans, it might benefit from outside consultants that could be funded by the student life dean, Holmes said.

Benedict came to MIT in 2000 after serving as Johns Hopkins Uni-

versity's Dean for Student Affairs since 1992. He told *The Tech* in the fall that after leaving MIT, he plans to retire.

Among the members of the search committee are Steven R. Lerman '72, dean for graduate education and the committee's chair; Holmes, UA President; Elizabeth A. Reed, senior associate dean in the office of undergraduate education; John DiFava, director of facilities operations and security, and former MIT police chief; Anne E. C. McCants, professor and head of the history section; and Muriel Medard '89, associate professor and outgoing Next House housemaster.

Birth Dates Will Be 'Directory Information' Under New Proposal

Birth Date, from Page 1

information about, among other things, which undergraduates attend which graduate schools. The system considers students identical when they have the same name and birth date; it does not use other unique identifiers, like Social Security Numbers, which could cause substantial privacy concerns if they were leaked.

The change might also let employers verify a student's attendance at MIT electronically, something which cannot currently be done, Hastings said.

According to an e-mail sent by Hastings to the UA, the proposal would "include date of birth as data we don't publish but make available for MIT's participation in statistical studies that are deemed by MIT to be of significant value to the university, with approval by one of the Deans or the Chancellor required to release the data."

"Our intention is to make release a rare event," Hastings said last night. In response to a student's question about when MIT would release birth date information, Hastings said that the Institute would require a letter justifying the request. But he said that MIT would probably not check that justification.

Hastings said that students had raised few concerns about the proposal to him. He said that students had asked to make sure they were properly notified that the Institute would begin sharing their birth dates, and that it was clear how to

opt-out of the sharing.

Last night, Hastings said that MIT would also expand directory information to include "honors and awards." Like birth date, this category is so common that it's listed on the Department of Education's Model Notice for Directory information, available online at <http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/mndirectoryinfo.html>.

The proposal, which is being considered by the chancellor and the Committee on Student Information Privacy, also includes plans to "strengthen the opt-out procedures," Hastings said.

In order to prevent MIT from sharing directory information, a student must submit a written signed request that MIT verifies. Hastings said that an opt-out procedure "is already there," but students may "have to search a bit" to find it. He said that part of the proposal would include increasing awareness of the opt-out option and making a printable form available online.

At last night's meeting, students asked what practical benefit the AAU database access would yield. Hastings said that as part of applying for reaccreditation every ten years, MIT must say what graduate schools its students end up attending, a standard application of the AAU's database.

Some students said that they considered birth dates private information. Brittany A. Holland-Marcus '10 said that she had obtained confidential medical information about herself, such as lab test results, by calling MIT Medical and verifying her birth date.

If the policy is approved, it would likely take effect starting in the fall, and students would have a chance to opt out before Registration Day, Hastings said. MIT will review the policy every few years, he said.

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Solution to Crossword

from page 10

E	V	E	R	A	S	K	S	R	E	A	D	Y		
R	O	M	E	S	K	E	W	A	R	T	I	E		
R	O	A	M	S	I	N	E	S	I	M	P	S		
A	D	J	U	S	T	M	Y	L	U	C	K			
N	O	O	S	E	S	A	L	S	A	G	A	P		
D	O	R	D	U	O	S	A	L	I	E	R	I		
			J	A	F	F	A		R	A	I	N		
A	D	M	A	N	O	F	F	E	W	W	O	R	D	S
L	E	E	K				T	A	P	I	N			
F	R	E	E	B	I	E	S	A	D	D	V	I		
A	N	T		A	S	Y	E	T	E	I	E	I	O	
			A	D	H	E	R	E	A	N	D	N	O	W
A	L	O	N	G		F	I	R	M	L	I	L	A	
M	I	L	N	E		U	C	L	A		E	R	I	N
A	D	D	E	R		L	A	Y	S		S	O	N	S

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What's Going On?

CLAY MATHEMATICS INSTITUTE

The Music of the Primes

$$\zeta(s) = \prod_p (1 - p^{-s})^{-1}$$


CLAY PUBLIC LECTURE by

Marcus du Sautoy

Thursday, May 8, 2008 at 6 pm

MIT, Compton Laboratories
Building 26, Room 100
Access via 60 Vassar Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts

CLAY MATHEMATICS INSTITUTE • One Bow Street, Cambridge, MA 02138 • T. 617 995 2600 • F. 617 995 2660 • www.claymath.org

Why did Beckham choose the number 23 shirt? How is 17 the key to the evolutionary survival of a strange species of cicada? Prime numbers are the atoms of arithmetic — the hydrogen and oxygen of the world of numbers. Despite their fundamental importance to mathematics, they represent one of the most tantalizing enigmas in the pursuit of human knowledge. In 1859, the German mathematician Bernhard Riemann put forward an idea — a hypothesis — that seemed to reveal a magical harmony at work in the numerical landscape. A million dollars now awaits the person who can unravel the mystery of the hidden music that might explain the cacophony of the primes.

Marcus du Sautoy is Professor of Mathematics at the University of Oxford and a Fellow of Wadham College. He is author of numerous academic articles and books on mathematics. He has been a visiting Professor at the Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris, the Max Planck Institute in Bonn, the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and the Australian National University in Canberra.

Marcus du Sautoy is author of the best-selling popular mathematics book *The Music of the Primes*, published by Fourth Estate in 2003 and translated into 10 languages. It has won two major prizes in Italy and Germany for the best popular science book of the year. His new book *Finding Moonshine: a mathematician's journey through symmetry* is also published by Fourth Estate and was released in March 2008.

Our thanks to the MIT Mathematics Department for hosting the event.

Find out why prime numbers represent one of the most tantalizing enigmas in the pursuit of human knowledge.

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Write code.

Mostly Python. (Some Squeak and Lua.)
No Python experience required ...as long as you can learn it quickly.

Get paid.

And have fun. I'm an MIT grad and "parallel entrepreneur" looking for a boatload of summer interns to crank out code for 3 different projects.

This summer.

Somewhat local. Live out in the suburbs to be close to work; take the commuter rail into Boston if you need more excitement on weekends.

And beyond?

I'm also looking for at least one 2008 (or earlier) grad to continue the momentum beyond the summer.

Use Croquet or similar metaverse tool to build a cutting-edge 3D environment for kids age 6-9 to learn a second language.

Other tasks include machine learning, information extraction, and general slicing & dicing of textual and numeric data to present on the Web.

<http://ProductArchitect.com/jobs.html>

The biggest threat to depression is your awareness of it.

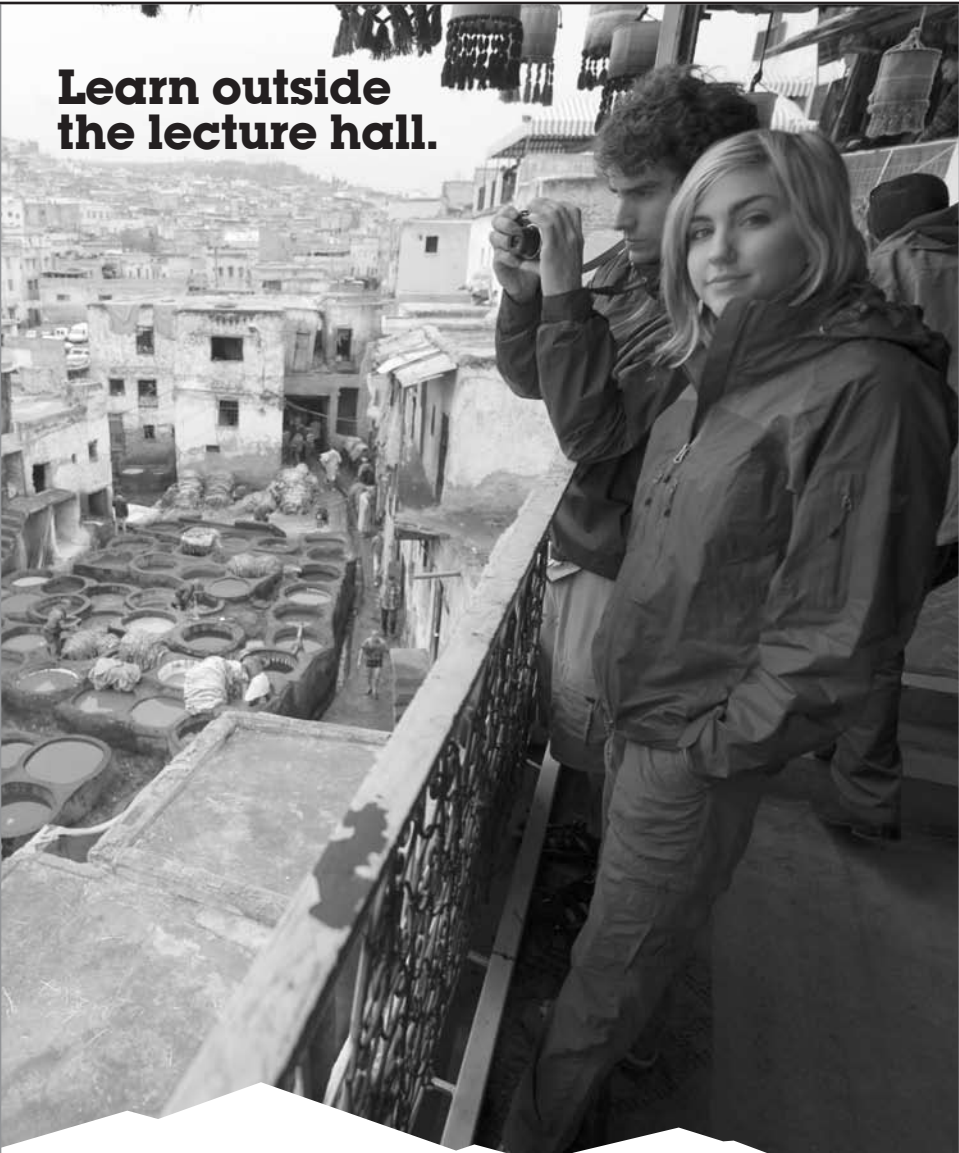
Serious depression strikes millions. Serious depression strikes indiscriminately. Serious depression is MOST dangerous when it goes unrecognized. That's why it's so important to always be aware of the threat of depression. And if your life is ever interrupted by a period of depression, remember that it is readily, medically treatable.

UNTREATED DEPRESSION
#1 Cause of Suicide

Public Service message from SAVE (Suicide Awareness Voices of Education) <http://www.save.org>

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Student Center
April 30 & May 1 (Wed & Thu)
10am - 3pm

Lobby E51
May 5 to 7 (Mon to Wed)
11am - 4pm

why buy your GradRat before July 1?

The prices of the GradRat for next year (July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009) are determined by the second London gold price on June 15, 2008. That price was \$653.10 on June 15, 2007. Currently, gold is trading over \$900 an ounce. Unless the price of gold drops by June 15, there will be a significant price increase effective July 1.



Balfour



SPORTS

Game of the Week

O’Keefe Scores Twice in Final Minute to Beat Wheaton by One

By Shreyes Seshasai
SPORTS EDITOR

Down by one with a minute left, the women’s lacrosse team was facing elimination in the quarterfinals of the New England Women’s and Men’s Athletic Conference Tournament. Samantha F. O’Keefe ’09 and the MIT offense wouldn’t stay down though, as O’Keefe scored two goals in the final minute to propel MIT to its first semifinal since 1995.

The no. 5 seeded MIT escaped 13-12 against no. 4 seeded Wheaton College, avenging a loss earlier this season to its conference opponent. Wheaton edged MIT 17-16 in their first meeting on April 15.

Both sides traded the momentum back and forth throughout the first half. After Wheaton pulled ahead to a 3-0 lead, O’Keefe broke through for MIT, scoring its first goal. That was quickly followed by scores from Stephanie V. Brenman ’09 and Laura C. Watson ’08 to tie the game at three.

Erica W. Little ’11, Casey M. Flynn ’10, and Molly A. McCartin ’11 also got on the board for MIT, as the half ended tied at 7. Wheaton then came out strong in the second half and took the lead 9-7.

Flynn slowed down Wheaton’s attack with a goal at 15:38, but Wheaton followed that with another two goals to take the lead 11-8.

Knowing that this could be their last game of the season, MIT fought

back and rallied to get the score to 12-11. That’s when O’Keefe took over and scored the last two goals in just a 10.7 seconds span for the win.

O’Keefe finished the game with five points, leading MIT with four goals. Flynn also had five points, while Erica W. Little ’11 had a hat trick and an assist. Monique T. Squiers ’11 stepped up in net towards the end of the game and finished with a total of four saves. The rookie Squiers gave up only one goal in the final thirteen minutes of the game.

Next up on Saturday for the Engineers is nationally ranked Babson College, who is the top seed in the NEWMAC tournament. MIT played Babson earlier this season on April 8, when they lost 23-13.

MIT Sport Taekwondo Finishes 2nd Overall On Road to Nationals

By Aaron Sampson
TEAM MEMBER

The MIT Sport Taekwondo Club traveled to Columbia University on Sunday, April 20 to compete in the final tournament of the Ivy/Northeast Collegiate Taekwondo League Season. A strong performance by the team, coached by MIT Sport Taekwondo Coach Daniel Chuang, secured both second place at the tournament and second place overall for the season, surpassed only by Cornell University.

The day began with the forms, or poomsae, competition, which involves the execution of a set of kicks and hand techniques specific to belt level. At the red belt level, Corinna Hui ’09 and Ning Wu G earned bronze and silver medals in the women’s and men’s divisions respectively.

MIT had a particularly impressive performance in blue belt forms, where Ranbel F. Sun ’10, Elisabeth M. Markham ’09, and Stephanie R. Chiang ’08 swept first, second, and third place. Forrest Liao G also earned a gold medal on the men’s side.

Shammi S. Quddus ’10 earned a gold medal in women’s green belt forms on the strength of her side-kicks, while Gordon Lu G earned a silver medal on the men’s side after coming out on top of an unprecedented runoff to break a four-way tie for second place. In the men’s yellow belt division Andrew Sugaya ’11 earned a gold medal.

With the completion of the forms competition, the tournament progressed to the sparring, or kyorugi, contest. In the advanced (A-Team) division, MIT’s women’s A1 team of Hui, Miranda J. Ha G, Stephanie R. Chiang ’08, and JiHye Kim ’10 overcame the very strong Harvard A1 team in the semifinals to earn a silver medal.

In the beginner (C-Team) division, the MIT women’s C1 team (Jing “Jenny” Cheng ’11, ZheChen “Mary” Hong ’10, and Shammi S. Quddus ’10) earned a silver medal. The men’s C1 team (Gordon Lu G, Andrew Hsiao ’10, and Michael Schneider G) earned a bronze medal.

The tournament and the season concluded with the exciting intermediate (B-Team) competition, in which MIT’s women’s teams continued their dominance, taking the top three places with the B1 (Ha, Hui, and Chiang), B2 (Sun, Han Zhu ’09, and Markham), and B3 (Jaclyn Ho ’09, Stephanie Nix ’09, and Christine Chin ’09) teams for the fourth consecutive tournament. On the men’s side, MIT B1 (Wu, Jaroslav Labaziewicz G, and Liao) and MIT B2 (Wesley Koo ’09, Chris Han ’09, Omar Fernandez ’10, and Matthew Escoto ’11) took silver and bronze medals respectively.

MIT finished the tournament with 471 points, behind only Cornell with 656 points. Though this tournament marked the end of the INCTL season, the club quickly turned its attention to the Collegiate National Championships held at Stanford University on April 25-26.

Sailors Earn Berth to the ICSA Dinghy National Championship

For the first time since 2003, the MIT sailing team qualified for the Inter-collegiate Sailing Association Gill Coed Dinghy National Championship in Newport, R.I. on June 2-4. The Engineers earned a berth by placing a fifth place out of eighteen teams at the ISCA Western Semifinal at the University of Southern California this past weekend.

Leading the Engineers were B-Division skipper Brooks L. Reed ’09 and crew Elizabeth A. Hass ’10, who finished third in their circuit. Senior co-captains John M. “Jack” Field ’08 and Julie C. Arsenault ’08 battled a difficult fleet to finish ninth in A-Division, with Joshua C. Leighton ’10 and Karlen E. Ruleman ’09 subbing for two races.

“This wasn’t just an accomplishment for the six sailors who sailed at Long Beach, this was an accomplishment for the entire team,” said MIT coach Matt Lindblad.

—Mike Stoller, DAPER Staff

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Saturday, May 2, 2008		
Women’s Openweight Crew, Beanpot Regatta	9 a.m., Charles River	
Women’s Lightweight Crew vs. Radcliffe College	Charles River	
Baseball vs. Williams College	12 p.m., 2:30 p.m.	Briggs Field
Men’s Lacrosse, Alumni Game	1 p.m.,	Jack Barry Field
Sunday, May 3, 2008		
Men’s Heavyweight Crew vs. Boston University, Wisconsin University	9 a.m., Charles River	
Baseball vs. Suffolk University	1 p.m.,	Briggs Field

SCOREBOARD

Baseball	
Wednesday, April 30, 2008	
Fisher College (18-17)	1
MIT (18-15)	3
Women’s Lacrosse	
Wednesday, April 30, 2008	
MIT (5-7)	13
Wheaton College (7-10)	12

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